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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 31, Iss. 12)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXXI, No. 12

Jersey City, N. J., June 15, 1949

Price 10 Cents

Honoring A Great Humanitarian



Elizabeth Murdock and Margie Raiprich, part of the delegation from Local 185, Shamokin, Pa., that participated last month in ceremonies honoring the Roosevelt shrine at Hyde Park, N. Y., show Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt the wreath they brought for grave of the late President.

1,000 Dress Pioneers Hailed at Retirement

In a hushed ballroom in midtown Manhattan on June 1 six veteran dressmakers walked proudly to the dais to receive from Impartial Chairman Harry Twissler the checks signaling the inauguration of the Retirement Fund of the Dress Industry of New York. In the presence of more than 1,000 of their fellow pioneers and to the applause of union officers and industry leaders, they transformed an age-long hope into the reality of security against old age.

The short ceremony was the climax of an emotion-filled day which began with a luncheon in the Hotel New Yorker. Here the chief officers of the employers' associations that are party to the collective agreements with the New York Dress

(Continued on Page 4)

Gomberg Named to Ford Board of Arbitration

Dr. William Gomberg, director of the ILGWU Management-Engineering Department, was appointed at the request of Walter P. Reuther, president of United Auto Workers, CIO, as the labor member of the arbitration board which is to decide on the grievances which led to the recent strike of 40,000 workers in the Ford Motor Co.'s plants.

Industry Recession Halted, GEB Finds

AID TO FREE ITALIAN TRADE UNIONS URGED

All-out support for the Italian free trade unions in their struggle to liberate the labor movement of Italy from the Moscow yoke was favored by the ILGWU General Executive Board at the Unity House meeting.

First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini brought the Italian labor situation before the GEB. The withdrawal from the Italian Confederation of Labor, dominated by the Communists, of the Christian Democratic unions and, later, of the other free trade unions, has widened the opportunity for a concerted attack on the Stalinist leadership in the Federation of Laboring Men said.

With the general decline of Communist influence, caused chiefly by the effective work of the Marshall Plan, the time for anti-Communist action on the Italian trade union front is at hand, Antonini declared.

ILGWU in High Gear, Reports Indicate—Wage-cutting Attempts Checked—Health and Welfare Programs Reaching Full Coverage Are No Substitute for Wage Increases, ILGWU Chief Declares—Training School for Officers Voted

The fifth quarterly meeting of the General Executive Board of the ILGWU began its session on June 6 in the administration building of Unity House, Forest Park, Pa., under the chairmanship of Pres. David Dubinsky with only three members absent.

The missing board members were Israel Feinberg, who was in Europe as a delegate from the Jewish Labor Committee, Harry Greenberg, visiting Israel as part of a mission from the Trade Union Council for Palestine, and Edward Molinsky who was unable to attend on account of illness.

As its customary, the first day's session of the GEB was given over to reports covering the cost and suit and the dress industries of the metropolitan New York area, including the Eastern Out-of-Town

and the Northeast Departments of the ILGWU.

Cloak Work Outlook

Acting general manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board, Vice Pres. Benjamin Kaplan, described the past work season in the coat and suit trade as "reasonably good" despite the tight-money slump caused by difficulty on the part of a great many cloak firms. However, prospects for next season were promising, Kaplan stated.

He drew attention to the \$300,000 raised in February by the New York cloakmakers, through contributions of a half-day's earnings, which was subsequently allocated by the Cloak Joint Board to various relief and philanthropic institutions here and abroad, with special emphasis on Russia, United Jewish Appeal, Italian Relief and the RIAPS.

Kaplan also reported on the increase of retirement benefits in the coat and suit industry, from \$50 paid now to \$80, to start at once. The Cloak Retirement Fund, he stated, has accumulated a balance of \$19,700,000. There are 1,500 active beneficiaries on this fund's list.

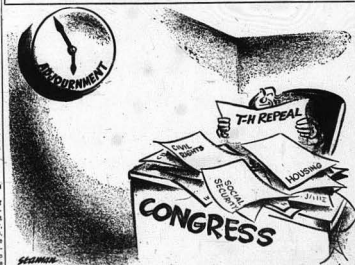
(Continued on Page 2)

Delegates Chosen For 1949 AFL Meet

The GEB, at its last week's meeting, named the following vice presidents as delegates to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor to be held in St. Paul, Minn., in October, 1949: Luigi Antonini, Israel Feinberg, Charles E. Zimmerman, Isidore Nagler, Louis Bluhstone, David Glusac and George C. Rubin. Pres. David Dubinsky will head the ILGWU delegation.

The following were named as alternates: Louis Bluhstone, Local 23; Jack Spitzer, Local 60; Harry Butler, Chicago; Rebecca Taylor, San Antonio, Tex.

"The Clock-Watcher"



ILG TO LAUNCH WFDR (FM) RADIO STATION AT GREAT CARNEGIE HALL FESTIVAL, JUNE 16

Full Program on Page 3

Drummers Reveal Similar Over-all Patterns

(Continued from Page 1)

today, and 1940 applications are pending or have been approved for the coming year.

Other reports for the coat and suit trade were rendered by Vice Presidents Juddie Wagner and Joseph Breising, covering the cutting and pressing branches of the industry, respectively.

Sweep of Dress Drive

A comprehensive account of the spring, organizing drive in the New York dress industry, which started in March, was given by Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of Local 22, Dressmakers Union. The organizing campaign got into high gear after the Dress Joint Board had effected a tripartite agreement between Local 107, Clerk and Dress Drivers and Truckmen's Union, the Joint Board and the five truck owner association, in the garment market.

Zimmerman declared that the results of the organizing drive have so far exceeded all expectations and have left a wholesome and stabilizing impact on the dress industry in New York and throughout the East. To date, Zimmerman, who is heading the dress drive, reported 111 dress jobs—some of whom are among the biggest producers in the dress market—have signed up with the union.

Decline shops in the downtown areas which could not be reached for years have had their shops unionized. He mentioned numerous contract plants in Connecticut and New York towns, and cited with some elation the unionization of the Valrose and Jonathan Logan firms. The agreements with the latter firm especially has left a salutary impression, Zimmerman declared, as this concern is recognized as one of the largest producers of \$5 to \$8 wholesale price dresses.

The contracts signed by these firms were with the New York Dress Joint Board, conforming to its standards and work terms. Still out on strike are about 40 firms, he stated.

Zimmerman announced that the dress organizing drive, at present slowed down, will resume shortly, widening its ramifications to include production plants owned by New York jobbing firms and located in several mid-Atlantic states and in the South. The drive already had discouraged many New York dress firms from "running out" to distant places in search of non-union work conditions, Zimmerman declared.

In East and Northeast

The pattern of production in the East outside New York City and the Eastern Out-of-Town and the Northeast Departments are operating, followed pretty closely the New York City production type and down, reports revealed.

Vice Pres. Harry Wander, general manager of the EOT, reported

that the spring dress season, had a slow start but gained fast in tempo after March. The miscellaneous trade, with the exception of robe making, had moderately good season, Wander said. Among the strikes still persisting is the one against White Swan, manufacturers of nurse uniforms, with plants in the South and South-Wander reported a total of 719 union shops employing about 33,000 workers in his department. The EOT has bought a building in Newark, N. J., for a union office and a health center, he said.

Vice Pres. George Rubin, reporting for the Clock Out-of-Town Department including 11 locals in New Jersey and Upstate New York, stressed a brief coat and suit spring season and brighter prospects for the fall.

Holding the Fort

For the Northeast Department, Vice Pres. David Glingold declared that the total volume of work in the Pennsylvania, Upstate New York and Maryland garment shops has been smaller during the past six months than during the same period in 1948. Organized workers, however, have kept this department in fine fettle regardless of industry difficulties, Glingold said. The Northeast has won several awards, including the CIO election against competing CIO outfits in the textile industry and has stepped out District 10 of the UAW which is expected to encroach on ILOUW jurisdiction.

The union's health program has advanced by leaps and bounds in this territory, Glingold also reported, citing the opening of new health centers in the Wilkes-Barre area and in Boston, Mass.

Hold Prices in Blouses

The second day of the QEN sessions opened with a brief report by Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler on conditions in the New York blouse industry.

He described the state of blouse production for the past six months as "not discouraging, though not too good." He said the work season was below mediocre both in New York and in the adjacent blouse market territory.

Nevertheless, Kreindler said, Local 20, of which he is the manager, has succeeded in maintaining work standards in its shops. "We held onto prices plus 40 per cent above envelope wages," he declared.

Currently, the eyes of the union are on the creation of a retirement benefits fund for over-age workers. The present collective agreement with the Blouse Manufacturers Association will expire Dec. 31, 1949, and the local is making plans for its renewal.

Fighting Slump in Undergarments

Reporting for Local 62, Vice Pres. Louis Stulberg, manager of the Undergarment Workers, declared that the underwear trade has experienced its "first real slump" in many years. He estimated the production season during the recent work season at 15 per cent, as against usual conditions of "redlining" of the piece goods market.

"Hand-to-mouth" buying, despite "the best value to retailer as a consumer in 10 years," was another cause of this slump, Stulberg declared. Still, since employers have adopted a policy of cutting on stocks, there's reason to believe that conditions in this industry would receive a material lift by August, Stulberg said.

Hourly earnings have been maintained in Local 62 shops, though aggregate earnings have been spotty on the whole. The employers' refusal to associate with the union has made attempts to evade the collective agreement or to move their shops out of New York, he added. There's hardly any non-union undergar-

ment production in the metropolitan New York area, he concluded.

Local 91 Prospects

In the absence of Vice Pres. Harry Rosenberg, manager of Local 81, Executive Secretary Fred P. Umhey read a written report on the situation in the children's dress trade which revealed a drop of about 25 per cent of normal production volume during the past six-month period.

Oregonberg, however, added that the prospects for the fall season in children's garment manufacture are more cheerful. He emphasized the point that Local 81, more than many other ILOUW locals, is eagerly looking forward to the raising of the federal minimum wage to 40 cents per hour as a stabilizing factor. Children's dress employers, he stated, after that out-of-town competition is keenly felt in that market.

Local 81 has carried out a widely diversified educational program during the past winter and has kept political interest among its members at a high peak, Rosenberg wrote.

Dress Employment Letdown

In a brief, factual summary on dress industry production for the past half-year, Julius Hochman, Dress Joint Board general manager, pointed to the decline in payrolls over the first four months of the current year, dropping 20 points in January, 16 points in February, 9 points in March, and 7 points in April, marking up an average of 13 points for the first four months of this year. These drops, he pointed out, account for the employment slip-ups in the dress shops which caused uneasiness among dress workers and other market workers.

Hochman and the QEN of the difficulties experienced in the signing of the collective pact with the Popular Priced Dress Manufacturers' Association in February, handicaps which were finally overcome when the leaders of this employers' group retreated from an ultimate position they had maintained for a number of weeks.

The retirement fund in the dress industry, founded in May, 1947, as the result of an agreement between the union and the dress associations, is gradually building up a reserve to permit benefit payments based on an actuarial funding of \$8,000 per eligible applicant. Hochman informed the board. The current balance of this fund is roughly \$3,400,000, Hochman stated.

On June 1, in the presence of all

the leaders of the dress industry at a luncheon at the Hotel New Yorker, the Dress Retirement Fund formally was started on its benefit-payment career. (Full story on Page 5.)

Upper-South Headway

The Upper South Department, Supervisor Charles Kreindler informed the QEN members, has been making "slow though steady" headway in its territory which comprises Baltimore and other Maryland towns, West Virginia, Virginia and some towns in southern Pennsylvania.

In Baltimore, where the clockmakers had a fairly good work season, Joseph Wolman has replaced the veteran Samuel Caplan, who retired last year. The Baltimore dressmakers worked full time and had their contracts renewed. The clockmakers are also negotiating for a retirement fund, Kreindler added.

Organizing activity in recent months brought unionization of several firms outside of Baltimore. On the whole, manufacturers are taking full advantage of "freedom of speech" to discourage their employees from joining or voting for unions.

Kreindler spoke of the still slight still continuing in the Roanoke and Clifton Forge, Va., plants of the White Swan nurse uniform concern. He reported on the highly successful Upper South conference on Apr. 1 in which 30 locals participated. Political activity in the district is stepped up and interest in labor participation is rapidly mounting, Kreindler added.

"Far from Abundant" in Philly

Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, manager of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board, reported full-time employment in the past half-year in the children's branch of the industry at that market, with but "seasonal" employment in the cotton dress factories.

In most Philadelphia blouse and silk dress shops, however, employment in the past work season was far from abundant, being on a part-time basis in many shops. Organization work, however, is proceeding in the Philadelphia district with nine new firms added to the union's roll, Otto stated.

In the Midwest Area

In reporting for the Chicago market and the Midwest Territory, Vice Pres. Morris Bialla described the last clock work season as disappointing. The dress shops in Chicago proper barely worked full time

at the height of the season. The Chicago cotton garment trade, Bialla told the board, were also hard hit but are improving now, due chiefly to a drop in merchandise prices.

Garment workers in Illinois, Indiana and Iowa engaged in cotton garment production have had full employment, with the exception of the textile drive where the work season was meager.

The work picture throughout Michigan and Wisconsin since last December, Bialla further reported, was not much different from Chicago. Clock production slumped and in most places cotton garments failed little better.

The union's organization work, nevertheless, has gone on without a stop in a number of Illinois, Michigan and Indiana towns. The union is organizing the Gossard Corset Co., inviting shops in Ishpeming, Mich. and two others in Logansport and Granger, Ind. The union's work was poked by the firm's failure, to abide by the outcome of an NLRB election won last November by the union. The case in the Indiana shop was forced on the union after the company had violated an agreement made by refusing to bargain with a wage dispute. These shops are virtually closed by the walkout, which is being directed by General Organizer Abraham Poskin.

Southwest on the Alert

In an extensive report on the Southwest Territory, which also Tyn Cities in Minnesota, Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein pictured employment conditions as "reasonably good" in the early months of this year in cloaks, "not quite good" in silk dress and underwear manufacture, while low-priced cotton dress factories had been in the past few months was described as "very busy."

There's been no change in wage levels in the Southwest District, Perlstein said, though take-home pay has suffered a decline. Pressures for wage reductions by many manufacturers have been resisted by the union as well as demands by some firms for "reorganizations," to tend to eliminate older and higher-paid workers.

In connection with organizing activity in his district, Perlstein pointed to the necessity of evolving a higher type of union organization to take the place of the old techniques and union appeal. He dwelt on the summer educational programs in the Southwest District aimed at raising the community course and seminars for large groups of ILOUW members at colleges located in Carbondale, Ill., Los Angeles, Kansas City, Mo., Little Rock, Ark., San Antonio and Houston, Tex., and Evansville, Ind.

In the Deep South

Vice Pres. John B. Martin, director of the Southeast District, described the dress industry there slowed down in the early months of this year in the South, as picking up now and working full-time. Skilled cotton underwear industry, however, is working half-time or on short weeks.

New shops, most of them shifting to the South from other parts of the country, are opening up, Martin reported. Thus far, renewal of agreements with union employers have taken place on the side, quo before the new agreements. The union is now receiving pacts with the dress employers on an individual firm basis. Some firms have been sparing the reduction. Martin said, but the union has stood its ground. There is no doubt that the Tail-Hatters Act casts quite a heavy shadow on union-employer relations in the South, with the employers attempting to damage

(Continued on Page 10)

Leading the Vacation Parade



Rita Anzola, a worker at Zabel Undergarment Co., was the first of her shop to receive vacation check from Louis Stulberg, manager of Local 62, at local headquarters.

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DAVID DUBINSKY President
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MARK D. DANISH Editor
LEON STEIN Managing Editor

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President Reports Employment Fair, Health Funds Up

In summing up the employment situation in the women's garment industry for the past work season and appraising prospects for the coming fall production, Pres. Dubinsky in an overall report to the union's General Executive Board, meeting last week at Forest Park, Pa., stated:

"It is better than expected, though admittedly not up to high overtime standards of a year ago."

"We have stood our ground pretty nearly everywhere with regard to labor wage scales and repudiated some attempts to weaken pay structure in branches of our industry," the ILOUW president remarked. Organizing activity has not slackened either, and the ILOUW has continued to make membership gains.

The Taft-Hartley law is still a thorn in labor's side, causing resentment among increasing numbers of workers, Pres. Dubinsky remarked. More and more employers, obviously under the influence of the Taft-Hartley Act, are doing their utmost to harass or intimidate workers from joining labor organizations.

Dubinsky made public at the meeting a summary of the financial strength of the ILOUW Health and Welfare Funds operating in practically every garment market of the country under union administration. These funds are contributed by employers on the basis of percentage of weekly payrolls.

The difference between intake and outlay has gone into the reserve funds of the various affiliates, making up a total, including former reserves, of \$37,332,683. The health and welfare program of the ILOUW, it was revealed, already covers 85 per cent of the ILOUW membership, namely, 246,496, with the remaining member fast being added to the coverage.

The reserves, it is calculated, are to cover acceptable health and welfare benefits in the event of industrial stagnation which would materially affect contributions to the funds. Collection and administration expenses of this welfare fund is a sum run at about 6 per cent, Pres. Dubinsky explained.

These funds do not include the retirement funds in operation in several markets, notably in the New York coat and suit industry, with reserves and operational funds amounting to more than \$25,000,000.

Growth of Health Center

Pres. Dubinsky also cited the phenomenal growth of the New York Union Health Center, New York, operated by the ILOUW for its membership. The anticipated arrival for 1949 at the Union Health Center is set at the self-sufficient mark, with an operational budget of \$1,131,118. Estimated receipts are figured at \$101,000. The difference to be made up by the union states whose memberships are patients at the center.

Dubinsky spoke extensively of ILOUW efforts to help put the free trade unions of Europe on a sound basis in order to offer serious resistance to Communist infiltration and subsequent domination. He recounted, among other things, the recent meeting in London of most of the European garment workers' organizations at which the ILOUW was represented by Vice Pres. Morris Bialik of Chicago and at which the foundation was laid

for the revival of the pre-war International Clothing Workers Federation.

Dubinsky also reported to the ILOUW executive board on the forthcoming conference in Geneva, later in June, of various national trade union centers, including that of Great Britain, the AFI, and the CIO, for the purpose of forming a new world labor body as distinct from and in opposition to the Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions.

Strong T-H Resolution

The ILOUW executive board also adopted a resolution calling for the immediate repeal of the Taft-Hartley law and substitution of "an act that would retain all the major guarantees of the Wagner Act, in addition to some mutually acceptable amendments inspired not by hate of trade unionism but by a sincere desire to preserve intact the policy of collective bargaining, to achieve true equity in labor-management relations, and to protect the vital interests of the general community."

The resolution reads: "The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union has consistently opposed the Taft-Hartley Act, before and after its enactment, as a law designed primarily to weaken the trade union movement and to deprive it of economic, legal and social safeguards acquired after decades of struggle and sacrifice."

"Two years of experience under

the Taft-Hartley Act have not altered our belief in the vicious intent and inequitable implementation of this so-called measure of 'economic equality.' The Taft-Hartley Act has seriously confused and, in many instances, perverted the national policy of collective bargaining; it has revived, both in theory and practice, the injunctive process in labor disputes; it has banned the closed shop and assailed the union shop, and has deprived strikers of their status as employees and recognized strikebreakers in their place with regard to representation voting."

"If the Taft-Hartley Act has not yet done greater damage to organized labor, it is because of the immense and unified opposition to it not only by the 13,000,000 trade unionists but also by the majority of the American people as was so strikingly demonstrated in last year's election."

"The General Executive Board of the ILOUW, speaking for the upward of 400,000 members of the union, declare that we stand squarely for the replacement of the Taft-Hartley Act by a law that would retain all the major guarantees of the Wagner Act, in addition to some mutually acceptable amendments inspired not by hate of trade unionism but by a sincere desire to preserve intact the policy of collective bargaining, to achieve true equity in labor-management relations, and to protect the vital interests of the general community."

"As a major amendment in this direction, we support the provision advanced by the leadership of the American Federation of Labor to authorize the President, under the new law, to seize and operate for the Government for a limited period of time any struck plant or industry when its seizure threatens to bring about a national emergency."

"We formerly, we are unequivocally opposed to any labor act which includes the application of the injunctive process in labor disputes, either by private employers or by the Government."

Learning the 'Tricks of the Trade'



Adolph Held, director of ILOUW health and welfare funds, and Vice Pres. Israel Ben-Gurion, manager of the New York Cloak Joint Board, look on as young student works diligently at learning skilled trade at CRT Vocational Training Center in Paris. The ILOUW officials visited various institutions and projects set up by the Jewish Labor Committee in France and other European countries en route to Israel as part of a five-man JLC delegation.

\$15,000,000 Income in '48; 1,446 on LG Staff

In a complete financial statement of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and of all its affiliates made public by Pres. Dubinsky at the meeting of the General Executive Board, it was brought out, among other things, that

and affiliates.

Per capita dues to the general office from the locals amounted to \$13,313,232.

Pres. Dubinsky drew special attention to the significant sum of \$1,584,954.38, which went to charitable and labor causes.

Another highlight of the financial statement was the expenditure of \$33,626.78 for education and recreation during 1948. During the same period the General Office and all ILOUW affiliates spent \$1,868,386.39 for organizing expenses.

Reflecting the continued spread and improvement of benefits, the report shows that employer contributions to health and vacation funds maintained by union affiliates reached \$7,358,812.83 or well over one hundred thousand the corresponding figure for 1947. Of this amount \$7,312,083.72 was paid out in benefits during 1948.

Pres. Dubinsky pointed out that the 1948 figure for the fund, as in previous years, does not include the reserves accumulated by the New York cloak industry retirement fund, whose total assets on Dec. 31, 1948 amounted to nearly 18 million dollars.

The assets of the General Office are not included in this annual statement of ILOUW receipts and disbursements. In accordance with the union's constitution, the assets of the General Office and of all the ILOUW locals and affiliates are published as part of the financial report issued during convention years.

Sherron L. Hamberger, general auditor of the ILOUW, was in technical charge of the preparation of the 1948 financial report.

WFDR Festival Program Carnegie Hall, Evening June 16

Master of Ceremonies:

EDWARD ARNOLD (coming specially for this event from Hollywood)

Speakers:

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
GEN. DAVID SARNOFF
WILLIAM O'DWYER, Mayor of New York
HENRY MORGENTHAU, Jr.
GEN. WALTER BEDELL SMITH
DAVID DUBINSKY

Artists:

EDDIE CANTOR (from Hollywood)
JAN PEERCE, famous tenor
ALBERT SPAULDING, violin virtuoso
LAWRENCE TIBBET, renowned baritone
SCHOLA CANTORUM of New York
HUGH ROSS, Conductor, with **CAMILLA WILLIAMS**, soprano, and **LAWRENCE WINTERS**, baritone, soloists.

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9:30 A.M. to 6 P.M.

SUCCESS OF JT. BD. DRIVE RELATED AT MEMBERS' MEETING

A detailed report of recent organizational progress by the Dress Joint Board was presented by Manager Charles A. Zimmerman at the monthly meeting of Local 22, Dressmakers, held June 2 at Manhattan Center.

Zimmerman traced the development of the current drive which has scored an outstanding record with the unionization of over 100 jobs. The dressmakers' manager, who is also in charge of the joint board's drive, declared that much of the success of the campaign was due to the cooperation of the I.L.O.W.U.'s Northeast and Out-of-Town Departments as well as that of the truckers who are now under agreement with the joint board and Local 152.

Zimmerman paid tribute to William Lury and pledged that the Lury murder case would be closed only with the capture and punishment of those who perpetrated the crime as well as those who conspired in it.

Variations in volume of work in the shop, and the functioning of the group system of price settlements in the lower priced ranges were subjects of Zimmerman's report, and were also discussed by speakers from the floor.

Industry and ILG Leaders Serve on Retirement Board

Members of the Retirement Council which is the administrative body of the Retirement Fund of the Dress Industry are:

Chairman: Harry Ullier, imperial chairman of the New York dress industry.

Secretary: Abe Goodman of the Affiliated Dress Manufacturers.

Treasurer: Julius Hochman, general manager of the New York dress joint board.

Employer Representatives: T. A. Agre and Morris Weinberg of the National Dress Manufacturers Assn.; Morris Kolchin and Abe Goodman of the Affiliated Dress Manufacturers; Louis Rubin and Morris Posner of the Popular Price Manufacturers Group.

Union Representatives: Luigi Antonini, manager of Local 49, Italian Dressmakers; Max Cohen, manager of Local 80, Dress Pressers; David Gungold, manager of Northeast Department; Julius Hochman, general manager, Dress Joint Board; Isidore Nagler, manager Local 16.

Retirement Fund Sets Assets at \$3,368,836

A report by Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary of the Pension Committee of the Retirement Fund of the Dress Industry, shows that as of May 1, 1949, the fund had total assets of \$3,368,836. The fund is financed by employer contributions of amounts equal to 1 per cent of payroll as provided in agreement first negotiated in March, 1947.

UNATTACHED APPLY FOR VACATION PAY STARTING JUNE 15

Payment of vacation benefits to dressmakers who are not regularly attached to a shop or who for some other reason such as illness fail to register for the benefit will begin at the office of the Dress Joint Board on June 15, it is announced by Secretary-Treasurer Nathaniel M. Minkoff.

On June 15 these dressmakers are to come to the Dress Joint Board, 214 West 49 St., and apply at Room 307 on the second floor.

Such applicants must bring with them their statement of employment in 1948, Minkoff stressed. This is the form designated as Form W-3 which each worker receives from the employer at the end of the year and which is used for tax computation purposes.

Past experience has shown that the quickest way of distributing \$8,000 checks to the dressmakers is to deal first with those who have no special problems of eligibility. This phase of the distribution was completed early this month by the business agents who brought the checks to the shops.

However, there are always a number of cases of unemployment or illness or some other cause which prevents some workers from registering in the shops during the April registration period.

Such workers will receive the same benefit rate but are asked to wait until June 15 to file their claims. Checks will be mailed to them shortly thereafter.

Cutters: Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer, N. Y. Dress Joint Board; Harry Wander, director, Eastern Out-of-Town Department; Sam Winkler, president, Dress Joint Board; Charles S. Zimmerman, manager Local 22, Dressmakers.

Each group has a total of three votes and the chairman is empowered to break any deadlocks that may develop.

N. Y. DRESSMAKERS 1,000 N. Y. Dress Pioneers Honored Upon Retirement



Amie Hutchinson, retiring member of Local 22, expresses overwhelming joy at receiving one of first checks from the Retirement Fund of the Dress Industry of New York at inaugural ceremonies at Hotel New Yorker on June 1. Dress Imperial Chairman Harry Ullier (left) presides. Also shown are Manager Luigi Antonini of Local 69 (behind middle); Vincenza Noto, retiring member of Local 89; Manager Charles Zimmerman of Local 22; Manager Max Cohen of Local 40; General Manager Julius Hochman of Dress Joint Board; and Manager Isidore Nagler of Local 10.

(Continued from Page 1)

Joint Board met with officers and staff members of the dress locals. Chairman of the luncheon as well as of the inauguration ceremony was Ullier. At the luncheon all speakers were agreed in expressing pride in the establishment of the retirement fund. Industry spokesmen included Louis Rubin of the Popular Price Manufacturers Group, Abe Goodman of the Affiliated Dress Manufacturers and Morris Weinberg of the National Dress Manufacturers Assn.

Union spokesmen at the luncheon were General Manager Julius Hochman and Pres. David Dubinsky. The actual inaugural ceremonies started in the Main Ballroom of the Hotel New Yorker at 2 P.M. Announcements had gone out after many weeks of gathering applications and interviewing applicants for retirement. The rules had been announced at local shop meetings and through the press.

A New Source of Pride

Among the older folks in the shops, those 60 years or more, there had been a glow of excitement and a new source of pride. For them approaching old-age had long been a dreaded threat. Then the announcements came — and they said that members over 60 who are willing to retire, who have been members in good standing for at least 11 years since June, 1932, and continuously for the last five years would do so and receive \$50 a month for the remainder of their lives.

In the weeks before May 1, some 1,000 applications for retirement had been filed. Of these, 988 applications were approved in time for the inauguration ceremonies. Another 230 applications include those which are pending or were filed too late or were found to be ineligible or cases in which the applicant died in the period since filing.

At the ceremonies Vice Pres. Hochman noted that at the time applications for retirement were being called for there were more than 2,300 workers in the industry who were 65 or older.

Must Prepare for Leisure

The general manager noted that two factors influencing the decision to retire would in the future have to receive greater attention from the union and the community: the workers' justified pride in the industry and union he has helped to build along with his reluctance to sever this close relationship, and secondly the need for preparing workers who retire to enjoy their new-found leisure time.

Early on the morning of June 1 the dress union's old timers began to drop and push for one of the greatest days in their lives. They began to arrive at the Hotel New Yorker shortly after noon. Some walked in with firm step and with military rectitude. Others entered the great ballroom slowly, a little daunted by the bright lights poured around the hall to enable a motion picture crew to make a pictorial record of the event.

There were children, too. Very young ones who came with grandpas or grandmas. Others at the door at first stopped many persons who entered together, but showed only one admission notice. But time after time they found that the younger of the two, even if he were bald or if she were quite buxom, turned out to be a daughter or son accompanying the parent.

Tell of Picketline Days

The veterans waited patiently. They obliged the photographers excited by the abundance of challenging and interesting faces. They began to exchange reminiscences and to tell again, some in Italian and some in Yiddish, the tales of picketing heroism, of struggles in the shops and in the streets, of living standards of decency into the

sweated dress industry in the early years of the century.

Their pride was infectious and their patience inspiring. Each of the managers of the four dress locals greeted them with deep-felt eloquence. Vice Pres. Max Cohen spoke of their right to independence in their later years. Vice Pres. Nagler reminded the audience that the presser's veneration must continue to draw inspiration and the lessons of experience from these pioneers.

First Vice Pres. Antonini evaluated the new benefit as part of a larger New Deal and trade union objective of providing security and protection for the worker and his family's best periods of his life.

Pres. Dubinsky several times invoked the words of the Old Testament in paying homage to the pensioners. He declared that theirs had been lifetimes of fighting against abuses, against low wages and long hours, against grueling economic uncertainties.

Through those trying years, he said, these pioneers had built the union which is the child of their efforts. In scriptural Hebrew he uttered the prayer of patriots that they be not forsaken by their children. There were many with tears when he pledged that the union, their child, would not forsake them in the years of their old-age.

Checks Will Be Mailed

Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman expressed the mixed feelings of many in the hall when he voiced joy over the inauguration of the retirement fund and sorrow over the passing from the ranks of active shop and local participants of a generation of pioneers who cannot be replaced.

The benefit checks are to be mailed to the pensioners. As a symbol of the history of the fund, they were handed to the Simon, age 70, with 43 years of good-standing membership in the cutters' union; Hyman Weiner, 74, of Local 80; Abram Ritz, 70, of Local 22; Amie Hutchinson, 68, of Local 22; Vincenza Noto, 73, of Local 89; and Sam Rao, 70, of an out-of-town local.

Dr. Haber Receives ORT Award



William Haber, professor of economics at the University of Michigan, received last month the first Annual Award from American ORT. Presented by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, the award recognizes outstanding services in rehabilitation of war veterans.

Local Affiliations of Eligible Applicants

Local 18, Cutters	43
Local 22, Dressmakers	110
Local 80, Pressers	131
Local 88, Italian Dressmakers	23
Out-of-Town locals	26

EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN DEPT.

Harry Wander • Manager

Shop Festivities Salute Retiring EOT Workers

Farewell parties were held this month in a number of Eastern Out-of-Town shops as several score dressmaker veterans prepared to "fall out" of the ranks of active participation and to become the beneficiaries of the Retirement Fund of the Dress Industry of New York which began to function on June 1.

Since the fund, which was inaugurated with appropriate ceremonies on June 1 in New York, Vice Pres. Harry Wander declared: "Through collective bargaining, by the exercise of reason, we have now been able to pass another milestone in the ILOUW's program for bringing a full measure of security to those who labor in the garment shops. The Retirement Fund will mean for an increasing number of dressmakers protection and independence in their later years."

"In our shops we shall, from now on, have occasional gatherings at which the younger members will bid good-bye to those who have participated in the great campaigns of our union. Those who the older members who advanced the frontiers of the union into the out-of-town regions where opposition was strongest. They are the pioneers who have not only earned the benefits they will now enjoy but also our eternal gratitude for their vision and courage that ultimately has led to this fulfillment of a hope."

THREE WESTCHESTER CONTRACTORS SIGN UNION AGREEMENTS

The Westchester phase of the dress organization drive rolled up another three shops unified this month making a total of 11 dress shops organized since the start of the drive. It is reported by Louis Hoff, manager of Local 143 in Mount Vernon, N. Y.

The three newly unionized shops are the Hinge Dress Co. of New Rochelle, the Riverside Dress Co. of Nyack and the Del-Ray Sportswear Co. of White Plains.

All three have joined the United Popular Association of contractors and terms of the master agreement with that employers' group become effective in their shops.

N. J. Shop Signs

Charlotte Ann Dress of Elizabeth, N. J. has signed a union contract with the United Popular Association of Contractors and Terms of the master agreement with that employers' group become effective in their shops.

\$800 in Underpay Recaptured by EOT

More than \$800 recovered by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department with the cooperation of the New York State Board was recovered recently to workers in four contracting shops. It is announced by Assistant Manager Elliot Horowitz.

The money is for underpayments to workers. Operators employed by G. Clardi Dress Co., New Haven, Conn., received \$400; those at Rance Friggle, Flushing, got \$230. For operators at the Kerpert Dress Co., in Kerpert, N. J., the total was \$170. The \$800 was distributed among the dressmakers by Lillian Davis in Passaic, N. J.

Time to Take Things Easy



Manager William Altman of EOT Local 148 and 162 presents first retirement checks to Nicola D'Allesandro and Concettina Di Moe at Stern Dress Co. shop party in Bayonne, N. J., one of numerous celebrations marking inauguration of dress industry retirement payments. Looking on are Rosie Suarez, shop chair lady (left Altman's left) and Rose Giordano, chairman of arrangements (right).

\$1,000,000 Voted To Israel Housing; Labor School OK'd

ILOUW subscription of one million dollars worth of bonds that will shortly be issued by a New York corporation organized to finance an extensive housing project in Israel was pledged on June 8 by the General Executive Board of the ILOUW, Pres. David Dubinsky an official.

Vice Pres. Charles B. Zimmerman, who recently returned from a trip to Israel, stressed the tragic shortage of housing in the new state into which thousands of immigrants are pouring yearly. The State-labeled labor federation, is undertaking a housing program involving the expenditure of \$10,000,000 as part of a national housing effort. This sum is expected to be raised among American trade unions and others sympathetic to Israel's development through the sale of a 15-year-term bond issue bearing 3 per cent interest and redeemable at a rate of a 15th part of the entire issue annually.

This housing bond issue will represent only 50 per cent of the cost of the project, the other half to be furnished by the Government of Israel, it was further stated. Bondholders will be protected as first mortgage holders on the property of the project in Israel, and the issue of the bonds has been authorized by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

In addition to the million-dollar subscription which will be covered by the union's treasury directly the ILOUW will appeal to the union's membership to purchase the Israel bond issue with the anticipation that the response would result in swelling the ILOUW total to \$3,000,000. Dubinsky declared.

Full Time Officers' School Pres. Dubinsky also announced that the ILOUW executive board has voted to establish without delay a full-time officers' training school with an annual budget of \$100,000, to be located in New York for the purpose of developing quality union leaders.

Previously, the ILOUW has for a number of years maintained a series of courses for prospective officers and local executives. The projected ILOUW labor college, Pres. Dubinsky explained, is meant "to draw into union activity and service young men and women

who are in sympathy with the labor movement and especially with the ILOUW program. Candidates for the school will be drawn from youngsters who have had at least a high school or some college education. Most of them, we anticipate, will come from our own members or children of our members, though others may also be included."

This "graduate" lab school, currently the only one of its kind in the country, will have in addition to a classroom schedule a program of field work to familiarize the students with actual union techniques and shop problems. An educator of national repute will be engaged to head the school, Dubinsky said. The school will start with a first-year enrollment of from 25 to 30 students.

Death Benefit Total

Fredrick P. Unkray, ILOUW executive secretary, announced at the meeting that the union's national death benefit fund has paid out during 1948 \$10,000 to beneficiaries of 1,598 deceased union members.

It was announced that the ILOUW will hold its semi-annual convention in May, 1950, at Atlantic City, N. J. The current workers' union received its international charter from the American Federation of Labor on June 12, 1950.

H. D. Langer Named New Ohio Director

H. D. Langer, formerly manager of the Toronto Joint Board, has been designated by the ILOUW General Office as director of the Ohio area which includes part of Kentucky.

It is also announced that the Cleveland Clock Joint Board will endeavor to elect its new executive staff. Langer will act as international representative to the joint board. Louis Priner remains in charge of the managers office.

Today and Tomorrow

Luigi Antonini

First Vice-Pres. • ILOUW

The third anniversary of the Italian Republic was solemnly celebrated on June 2, and the Italian Government's honored guest for the occasion was Gen. Mark Clark, the American who liberated the fatherland of Garibaldi and Mazzini from the Nazis invaders and their fascist lackeys.

Before the referendum of June 2, 1946, which created the republic, the royal dynasty already at its historical sunset tried desperately to survive by attempting to frighten the Italian people into thinking that a victory for the republic would lead to Communism becoming the master of Italy.

The Voice of Local 89

Every Saturday

Symphony Orchestra and Opera Singers of International Fame

Luigi Antonini

First Vice President ILOUW and General Secretary of Local 89 in his weekly comments on labor and political events.

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

From 10 to 11

ON EASTERN HOOK-UP

WEUW (1330 Kc.) New York
WJUM (1490 Kc.) New York
WAT (1590 Kc.) Philadelphia
WHYC (1390 Kc.) New Haven
WHAM (1190 Kc.) Boston

claimed to the Moscow dictatorship, and are forming a new central labor body as a first step toward the complete unification of all free trade union forces.

This action follows a preliminary made a year ago at a trade union conference in Milan, that Italian labor would yet follow the road of Communist domination. Those courageous Bruno Bozzone. Those courageous efforts for the liberation of the labor movement will, I am certain, be approved by the Italian masses who are tired of Communist domination, and will undoubtedly with solidarity and support from the American Federation of Labor and the Italian American Labor Council.

We salute the Italian Republic on its third birthday, and we salute the labor forces that fought tyranny and are now dedicating themselves to the creation of a free, powerful trade union movement in Italy as the main pillar upon which the young republic can build a bright future.

Novelty Local Gets New Hdq.; \$60,000 Is Vacation Total

Local 98, Rubbertown Novelty Workers, will open its new headquarters at 932 Broadway, New York City, on June 15. It is announced by Manager Daniel Nixavitz. The local's new office will be on the fifth floor of the building, which also houses the headquarters of Local 32 and Local 122. The new headquarters' telephone number will be OXford 3-3660.

Nixavitz said that the move to the new office was made necessary by the increased growth of the membership. This is a record accomplished through steady organizational campaigns.

It was also reported that Local 98 will begin distribution of vacation benefits among its members starting June 1. It is estimated that close to \$60,000 will be distributed.

Wise WASHINGTON

Will Allen

WASHINGTON, D. C.—With the opening of Senate debate on the Administration's Thomas Bill, which aims to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act and replace it with a slightly modified Wagner Act, President Truman has been subjected to renewed teasing by reactionaries of both parties on his failure, after six months of the present session, to get as much of his program enacted as he said the 80th Congress would have passed in the last six weeks of its life.

In the face of this twisting, I have what I consider valid evidence to support a prediction I would like to make here and now. This is a long range prediction that is, it may take a year and a half before it comes through, although it is possible that the time may be shorter.

With that proviso in mind, I should like to caution the readers of "Justice" not to sell Harry Truman short. The reactionaries are having their himes temporarily, but I predict that the reactionaries are to be in a loss and that President Truman will turn out to be the victor in the end.

The evidence indicates that Harry Truman is going to get his program through mainly because he is going about it the right way. What he is doing about it is, in the case of the labor law, but it will be there before long.

One of the things Harry Truman has to get is a repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, even though the Administration has been on Capitol Hill might tell you confidentially they don't expect the Senate to pass the Administration's Thomas Bill.

The fact is that the Administration is already has already discounted any possibility of getting real repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act through the 80th Congress. They expect to get it in the 81st Congress which will be elected in the 1950 campaign. They feel that if the Administration is to wait until 1950 for Taft-Hartley repeal, it might as well plan on making a new law with new additional progressive legislation as civil rights, national health insurance, social security extension and minimum wage extension.

That was the reason that Sen. Thomas, head of the Senate Labor Committee, was content, when he took the floor in debate on his bill, to state the position of the Administration and let it go at that. He said that "the people last November voted that they consider the Taft-Hartley Act a mistake. And, he added significantly, repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act was the central feature of the Democratic Party platform. This already implied that he considered it the duty of all Democratic legislators to follow those from the South to vote for their campaign platform.

The real significance behind that remark is something that is as yet known only in political circles in Washington. And that is the Democratic National Chairman J. Howard McGrath and his executive assistant, Bill Boyle, have succeeded in tying up the Federal patronage lists to the White House so thoroughly that Democratic Senators and Representatives who insist on throwing the party platform overboard to make alliances with the Republicans are going to be out in the cold from now on whenever the President wishes to put the screws on.

To measure, the Administration is drawing up the record on which it will campaign for real repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act in the 1950 campaign.



Last November showed that the Truman Administration stands on two legs—support by labor and support by the farmers. The fight for repeal of Taft-Hartley guarantees the continued support of labor. And now the Administration is making a similar move on the farm front. What the Taft-Hartley repeal issue is to labor, the Brannan Plan is to the farmer. Under the Brannan Plan, the farmer will continue to be guaranteed the support prices he needs for a decent income for his labor; and in addition the plan allows reduced prices for farm products for the consumer.

The Administration is betting that both the farmer and the consumer will support the Brannan Plan. It sounds like the perfect answer for both. Reduced prices mean greater consumption by consumers, which in turn means greater demand for farm products, a bigger market and better returns for the farmer.

With that view in mind, the Administration a few days ago held an important conference in Des Moines, Iowa, in which farm groups and their organizations both took part. Agriculture Secretary Brannan was the most important speaker at the conference, but there were scores of other Administration luminaries. Among them were Vice President Barkley, several members

Dream to Cushion Sleep

By HAVA KRASCOFF

Out of the restless sea is the wretched
Night, two coas and was the evasive
Of sleep...
And the keeper of the waves of
sleep yes
Havenly ask:
"Havenly ask, send the deep
current of forgetfulness."
To my shore...
"And pray, grant a golden dream
to cushion the
Evading spirit..."

of the President's cabinet, a number of Governors, many Senators and Representatives, and last, but not least, Democratic Chairman McGrath and Executive Assistant Chairman.

All of this adds up to "the fact that the 1950 campaign already is in big style and President Truman is carrying the fight to the reactionary opposition which has stymied his program in Congress in the most practical manner that such a fight can be carried.

It is now clear that what President Truman is aiming for is a new special session of Congress in 1950 which will knowably the reactionaries by voting through the Truman program which the voters so heartily approved in the 1948 campaign.

It may be two years later in coming, but when the liberal victory comes in 1950 it is going to be worth waiting for.

The laborers' lobby is making a last-ditch (and losing) fight in the House in an effort to stop the Administration's housing bill, which has already passed the Senate. The bill calls for a clean clearance program and the construction of 1,000,000 new housing units. The House bill is currently tied up in the House Rules Committee which by the narrow margin of 7 to 5 has so far refused to let the bill go to the floor of the House for a vote. Speaker Rayburn met that challenge by announcing that unless the Rules Committee reports out the bill shortly the new House Republicans will be invoked to order the bill to the floor for a vote on June 27.

"—And No Middle Ground"



The story concerns a respectable Boston friend of mine who has his court responsibilities and the incessant demands of his socially ambitious wife and daughter. Kicking over the traces, he stuck up in California as a short-order cook in a beauty owned by a rough-and-ready young woman who truly appreciates his qualities. But his joyous affair with her is only an interlude. His sense of duty draws him back home — together with the sad realization that he is too old to start a new life.

"EDWARD MY SON" is a drama that grips you grimly with the complexities of the father-and-son relationship. Although the moral problem it poses is left unanswered, the film should provoke some serious questioning of underlying motives that all too often are disguised as "good intentions." It throws a spotlight on the gap between conscience and conduct that characterizes much of present-day life.

The story deals with the dilemma of a father too poor to care for his crippled infant son. Determined that the child will not grow up unprotected, the father embarks on an utterly ruthless career of moneygrabbing. All of his craft and conceivable actions are justified.



ted, in his own mind, by the needs of the son. He commits arson and blackmail, betrays friends, perpetrates misdeeds — and piles up a fabulous fortune. But his inner corruption is matched by external developments which make his son an evil creature and his wife a hollow, haunted woman.

Edward My Son seems an effective performance as the father, and Deborah Kerr is flawless as the wife doomed to degeneration at his hands.

"SHOWBOW! JONES" hits the "comic bull's-eye" with a smash. Based on a Damon Runyon tale, the film has been beautifully fashioned as a special vehicle for Bob Hope — and he rides it with hilarious abandon. Rarely has he had such scope for his antic sentimentality.

The story presents him as a chiling bookie who finds himself attracted as guardian of a little girl whose father is suddenly bumped off by gangsters. His frantic efforts to serve as a good parent precipitate him into the entire gamut of Broadway ploys — filling him with round-eyed terror that the toughs will go to his aid, the right wisecrack to give him triumphant control over the situation. When the little girl is in a hospital, his struggle to bring her home into her room is a climax of comedy.

Lucille Ball is Hope's cynically devoted girl friend, and Mary Jane Saunders is a cute little juvenile.

"THE JUDGE STEPS OUT" is a study of a middle-aged man's revolt against routine and his quest for the romance that escaped him in his youth. If the film had dug deeper into the emotional implications of such an impulse, it might have been a notable screen contribution.

The story concerns a respectable Boston friend of mine who has his court responsibilities and the incessant demands of his socially ambitious wife and daughter. Kicking over the traces, he stuck up in California as a short-order cook in a beauty owned by a rough-and-ready young woman who truly appreciates his qualities. But his joyous affair with her is only an interlude. His sense of duty draws him back home — together with the sad realization that he is too old to start a new life.

Alexander Knox is superb as the judge. Ann Southern is equally fine as his beery adviser.

The curtain rose on the new fall collection. New York showings amid numerous exposures of the coming season. The garments revealed anticipated, his new high for value on all anticipated recognition that value of the use of sales in coming months would depend largely on the proper advertising of these values.

In some respects buyers should have a new sense of realism not as fully evident in their talk and behavior in recent buying seasons. For example: there is little talk about beating last year's record of apparel sales. The new expectation is that the peak has been past and the target is not to exceed last year's record but to do so as well possible this year.

Another new turn is the recent recognition that competitive practices in the garment industry have stabilized values at a high level. Major adjustments in the price of textiles have been made. Manufacturers are cutting close to compete in an effort to induce buyers to take their merchandise. The product is constant in value and can be expected.

The fact that little more can be expected from either the textile or the garment making end in the way of additional declines, however, puts the burden of substantially where it rightfully belongs: on the shoulders of the retailers. The cry from the consumer, until now, has been that costs in the fabric and manufacturing stages were boosting prices beyond the reach of the consumer.

But these costs are now as low as they seem to be to get without the widespread failures. To many it now seems that the industry has come for the stores to exonerate itself over its own practices. These should include not only their relations with the garment manufacturers but also their own price-setting policies.

The garment manufacturer does not determine his prices alone. He purchases his material supplies in a market subject to the interplay of supply and demand. He pays for his labor at rates subject to collective bargaining.

But he is also at the mercy of the store buyer who likes to think that the retailer merely takes up the burden to so speak, when the garment maker hands it over. The impression is fostered that the retailer is helpless when it comes to the determination of wholesale garment prices. He inherits these prices and then must contend, port of the retail, with the consumer resistance they stir up.

This is, of course, a one-sided view of the situation. The retailer, in a market subject to the interplay of supply and demand, has more recent hand of placing his orders with extreme caution is the outstanding example of how the retailer not only affects wholesale prices but also calculates himself out a considerable volume of business.

Close-to-the-fest buying means smaller orders, smaller cuts, greater number of cutting smaller bundles at the machine, more and more handling and in general results in the manufacturers' hands also means numerous small orders. This tends to increase fabric costs.



MARKET

Leon Stein

New fall coat, suit and dress lines in numerous expressions of optimism for seasons revealed in the showrooms, as value on all price levels. There was no-

Finally, by ignoring the time factor in production, it placed on all preceding phases of production heavy burden which in most cases cannot be shouldered.

There have been a number of warnings by the cloak industry, for instance, that the mills upon which it depends for its supplies are working only on actual orders placed, and are not building stock. It seems fairly certain that long before the season passes its midpoint the lack of a ready fabric supply will choke off the filling of orders.

A glaring example of the need for retailers to examine their own pricing policies was afforded last month in a report of the meeting of a large resident buying office with the heads of its 25 affiliated stores. One of the main objectives of the stores, it was proclaimed, would be to assure a reasonable margin of profits in coming months. This is a legitimate objective. But the manner in which the outfit proposes to achieve it is one on which the economics as well as most experienced store keepers would frown.

The resident buying office will simply post a list of the prices it wants. There is no evident willingness to examine first the condition of the manufacturers, the state of the economy, or to attempt to learn to what extent that can be further deepened without affecting quality.

Instead, a ukase is issued stating that the buying office will pay for a dress retailing at \$19.95 not its present price of \$12.50 but \$11.50. Similar prices are posted for each price line. There is no talk about pausing the difference on to the consumer. Instead, this is the way it is proposed that a reasonable margin of profit be assured.

If the margin of profit is the spread between price paid and price received, then this is the way of achieving a wider margin. Many students of retailing, however, have become convinced that the primary retail problem today is not one of maximizing the margin of profit but of boosting sales.

Numerous cases have been found to which not wider but narrower margins of profit have led to increased sales and earnings by retailers. In the January issue of the "Journal of Marketing," Joel Dean of Columbia University notes that "an aggregate earnings standard and a unit margin standard are not the same thing at all." This is a fancy way of saying that total sales income doesn't necessarily increase as the margin is extended between cost and selling price for each item.

Mr. Dean further calls attention to recent studies which, he says, show that "the overwhelming majority of business men say they let profits on the basis of cost plus a fair profit. By cost, they usually mean full cost at current levels. By a 'fair profit' it is hard to know what they mean. No one ever seems to want more than a fair profit."

BOOK FRONT

Miriam Spieckhauser

NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR. By George Orwell. Harcourt, Brace and Co. \$1.

The most terrifying aspects of the world 25 years hence, as pictured in this political fable, are not the ways in which it differs from the present. In short, complete control over the physical world will, by then, have become an accomplished fact so that the full use of atomic force, space annihilation, etc., will be taken in stride.

What will persist into the world of the future, according to George Orwell, is the dangerous tendency of some individuals to think. Against that anarchistic function of the human brain the political forces ruling "Airstrip One" have concentrated all of the techniques of escape which by that time are so well developed that what we know now looks like merely the beginning of knowledge.

George Orwell demonstrated in "Animal Farm" a mastery of satirical invention. In "Nineteen Eighty-Four" he describes a fantastic world of the future with all the wealth of detail generally reserved for accounts of yesterday's events. His book is not of the popular variety of science-fiction. It is an imaginative story of a world based on fear and hate in which mankind has learned to be and kill with impunity. Its most terrifying aspects are those which reveal that the evils of this world of tomorrow are merely the fruits of political and social seeds we are planting today.

Winston Smith lives in London which, in 1984, is in that third of the world that is governed by a system of political power called "Ingsoc." Because in Smith's deprived new world reason and thought have been outlawed as threats to the state, an elaborate machinery has been created for ferreting out those who are guilty of "rethinkings." In the language of "Newspeak" the greatest virtue lies in excelling in "doublethink."

Apparently, in the period Mr. Orwell is examining, the semantic revolution has not yet been completed. Smith, himself, is employed in the Ministry of the Truth, one of the four ministries handling all government functions in Airstrip One, the others being Ministry of Peace, Ministry of Love, and Ministry of War.

The shape of things to come is not so important as their political significance. Every room in that part of London, 1984, not occupied by the proletarians is equipped with a two-way televisor. Privacy has been abolished. Thought-police are everywhere. So are posters of Big Brother and the three slogans of the party: War Is Peace; Freedom Is Slavery; Ignorance Is Strength.

War has been made permanent because only thus can the material surplus be removed. Thus keeps the proletarians from enjoying a rising living standard and their resentments are then channelled, through "hate," for further warfare.

In this transitional period, memories of things past are the greatest danger. All printed records of so-called freedom that flourished

U. S. S. R.

By MAX PRESS

Deeper than death itself can sink the black roots of a lie, How terrible must be the irony in a dying breath,

How they must stare and stare, the ghosts of all these butchered ones

Who filled the pits and dungeons of the camps of Death.

This is the dream for which they freeze and bleed and burned, These are the shames that were so proud and high.

Hear the wretched laugh of the dead in the gloom, For Death sank never so deep as a lie.

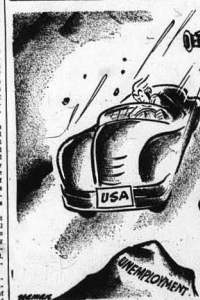
In the early Fifties have been destroyed through mutilation. Smith's job is that of constantly rewriting portions of the "Times" to conform with latest changes in the party line.

Mr. Orwell has written a powerful warning against even a small surrender of the truth. He has shown the ultimate form of a politics that excels means over ends and has realized his powerful herbs at all forms of totalitarianism. The last portion of his book is a hair-raising account of sadistic dialectic in which force and pain are skillfully used to alter the thought processes. Any readers who think that the author has allowed his imagination too much freedom in these pages are referred to "Doctors of Infamy" by Alexander Milich-Schulz, just published by Harry Schuman.

Winston Smith, 35 years from now, accidentally hits upon proof that the party is, as it is simple and appropriate as the proof that two plus two equals four. For a time he evades the police. For a while he escapes into the past with Julia. He even thinks that O'Brien would induce him into the Brotherhood, a secret opposition to the state.

But there can be no escape. Smith is caught. Doggedly, he clings to sanity, to the belief that black is black not white, to a refusal to obliterate reason and live in the moment. With powerful insight and imagination, George Orwell has told how this same Smith ends up loving his tormentors and proclaiming that two plus two equals five.

"Where's That Brake?!"



OUR WOMEN

Susan White

A British Government publication tells us that if any American visitor to that country needs medical or dental or optical care he has to do so walk into any doctor's or dentist's or optician's office, register himself as a patient and he will get whatever attention he needs, whether it be a simple check-up, a prescription or an operation involving hospitalization—and he will get it free of charge.

Nothing could better express the absolute essence of what the American Medical Association terms "socialized medicine." Here is a country desperately short of doctors, yet set by the most incredible economic woes, struggling—on some occasions fears vainly—to pay for its imports of food with its exports of



manufactured goods. Yet, amid these troubles, it says not only to its own people but to anybody who at any time happens to be in the country that medical attention is a simple human right to be accorded to anyone who needs it, whenever they need it, regardless of their economic status and even of their citizenship.

Many Americans will cry out against this. Some, indeed, will say that it proves that England needs a lot less aid than this country is now giving her, or that, in any case, it is America who is footing the bill.

But not one of these people would deny a glass of water to someone who rang their doorbell and asked for a drink. Because water is essential to life, no one will deny it to others. Is this because it is free? Not at all. Water is paid for

out of public taxation in this country in just the same way that medicine is paid for out of public taxation in Britain. It is then because water costs little? We doubt it. If water were a hundred times as precious as it is, it still would be given to those who must have it or die.

As a matter of fact, in New York State at the present moment, up in the Delaware Valley, an entire community is soon to be evicted from the rich lands and the fine homes where families have worked and lived for generations. This land is now needed for a new reservoir to ensure a water supply to New York City many, many miles away. Yet there is no public protest. It is recognized that where the lives of all the people of the United States must be considered, the wishes and even the happiness of individuals is subordinate.

It is in no other, that the proposals now before Congress to extend medical aid to all the people of the United States must be considered. Water and food prolong the lives of people which may drag out their years in misery from sickness and ill health. It is not this country's inability to sustain, clothe and shelter its population which prevents millions from living longer and healthier lives. It is the failure of our society to regard medical care as a simple human right, equivalent to the right to breathe the fresh air, to assume one's burger.

It is to the winners of the nation that the people of England—this is the message of urgent importance. This is true for two reasons.

First, it is argued by the opponents of Federal aid to medicine that the poor can already receive treatment in clinics and through charitable organizations. This is a complete denial of the right of every family to have adequate medical care. It requires the hands of the family to expose themselves to the indignity of virtual swearing of the poorer's gaps before help will be extended to them. The price of such aid is the loss of all human dignity.

Secondly, for those outside the great depths of poverty the cost of protecting the children against disease and malnutrition or disorders of the body calls for a sacrifice which the stricken family can seldom bear except at the cost of even the most elementary decencies of life. It is the woman then who bears the brunt.

Finally, and the American Medical Association has not yet seemed to dwell upon this point—the insuperable cost of private medicine to a family of ordinary income in an unstable economy drives most parents from exercising the diligence which they know they should employ. It is at the risk of being accused of hypocrisy that they take themselves or their children to a doctor at the first sign of a fever or even of a common cold. It is to a certain and heavy cost that some few families do take this view prevention. Yet the medical profession and the insurance companies urge it upon all of us.

Only when the direct and immediate cost is taken out of medicine, when it is supported mainly out of the public revenue, will every American be able to exercise his right not merely to live, but to live in health. If impoverished England can give this to her citizens—and even to those of us who wish her—indeedly obedient America can grant it easily.

The SOUTHWEST

Meyer Perlstein
Southwest Regional Director

Mo. and Kan. Firms Agree to Up Wages

Wage increases for several hundred garment workers employed by four major firms operating in the territory under the jurisdiction of the Southwest District are reported by Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein.

Salsbury Manufacturing Co. The escalator clause of the agreement with this Missouri firm has been invoked and conferences have been held on the union's request for a wage increase. The union is basing its claim on the increased skill of its members and the higher cost of living.

A tentative agreement provides that a 10 per cent wage increase be added to the total earnings of piece workers making over 75 cents an hour. Conferences are continuing on the problem of wage increases for time workers to derive a method of classification that will put minimum hourly wage rate on the basis of actual skill. More than 100 workers are employed.

I. R. German. An agreement has been negotiated with this firm which does contracts work in Pacific Mo. for the W. L. M. Clark Co. of St. Louis. Union negotiators were Emily Conkern and Frank Fisher. Before the negotiations began, attorneys for the firm agreed that the owner will pay the cost of medical treatment required by Gowin Street, and ILCWU organizer who was set upon one night during the organization drive and was clouted on the head with a hammer.

Co-Ed Flocks Co. A tentative agreement has been reached which provides wage increases for cutters and paid holidays for all workers employed in this company's plant in Pettus, Mo. The agreement will be presented for consideration to the members of Local 279.

Snyder Co. The contract signed by this firm in Olathe, Kan., provides higher wage scales, improved working conditions, paid holidays and vacations, and employer contributions to a health fund. In negotiations the union was represented by Sam White and Maurice Montgomery. Workers are members of the recently established Local 535.

Whitehouse Uniform Workers Give ILG 2 1/2 to 1 Majority

By a better than two and one-half to one majority, the employees of the Whitehouse Uniform Co., Inc., of Malvern, Ark., voted May 24 in favor of the ILGWU as their bargaining representative.

The National Labor Relations Board holding came after a short organization drive headed by Ann Rathner. A request for a collective agreement has been forwarded to the firm.

Local 516, St. Louis Shipping Clerks, has filed an application for an NLRB election in the shipping departments of the Purcell City Manufacturing Co. The voting would also include the shipping clerks in the Davis Division Company of this firm.

Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein and Assistant Manager Grace Harlan last month directed ILGWU functions for a group of St. Louis high school teachers from the Social Planning Council of that city.

Southwest Shorts

An elaborate educational and vocational program supervised by Editor Abraham, local educational director, was voted by Local 405, Central, Ill.

Two art and artistic classes, sponsored by Local 306, Johnston City, Ill., and Local 253, Shelbyville, Ill., have been organized under the direction of Eva Chalmers. Arrangements with Father Egan of St. Patrick's Parish, meetings of Local 376, Westville, Mo., are being held in the parish house. Ann Rathner, Kansas City Joint Board assistant manager, Helen Good, Local 270 manager, and Benny Kwiatkiewicz, the pressers branch, were designated to attend the educational institute sponsored by the Kansas Federation of Labor.

"Progressive Labor Relations" was discussed by Elizabeth Kimmel, manager of Local 214 at a Houston, Tex., Unitarian Church gathering.

A group of 20 orphans were guests of Evansville, Ind., Local 269 at the benefit show staged by city firemen. Lung X-ray examinations were given the members of Local 214.

Members of union headquarters, Mae Presley, former active member of Local 203 and now a successful time study engineer, has been teaching a time study course for ILGWU members in St. Louis on Wednesdays.

Mike Pinkelstein, manager of the Twin Cities Joint Board, spoke before the International Clothing Society last month on the position of the union in modern industry.

Frank Rother, manager, George Dwyer, chairman, and Martha Ellis, an active member, were named to represent the Cotton State Joint Board at the Missouri State Federation of Labor convention.

Ann Sasone, a member of the St. Louis educational committee, addressed a meeting of the finishers branch of Local 100 on the activities and benefits of the ILGWU Federal Credit Union.

Fifteen checks were issued to sick members by Local 383, St. Louis Curtain Workers.

A contribution of \$25 each to Ben Rubin and Tom Indelicato, two hospitalized members of Local 103, St. Louis Dress Pressers, was voted by the local.

Mae Handley, who is manager-secretary of Vanshila Local 398, was given the additional duty of supervising the activities of Local 408 in Quincy, Ill. Both shops are operated by the Ely-Walker Dry Goods Co.

A \$5 contribution to the cancer drive was voted by Local 254, St. Louis also to the Union Label Directory, \$15; to the local Red Cross chapter \$25; and for aid to displaced persons, \$20.

Representatives of Mexican trade unions and the Mexican consul attended a new members' class of the St. Louis locals last month.

A movie on cancer prevention was shown by Local 309, Assumption, Ill.

New Strategy Mapped In SW Organizing Drive

Staff members of the Southwest District this month planned new moves to carry forward organization drives now under way. The following measures were among those recently reported:

1945 WAGES WON'T MEET 1949 NEEDS, MINN. FIRM TOLD

The Southwest District has turned down a request for wage reductions made recently by the Ladies' Leader Garment Co. of Minneapolis, Minn. The firm asked that a 10 per cent boost which has been added weekly to the earnings of piece workers during the past two years be eliminated. Secondly, it sought permission to change from piece work to time work and asked that workers be paid in accordance with their 1945 earnings.

In its reply the union declared it would not allow such wage reductions and took the company to task for making such requests. The firm's requests reflect an outmoded belief by some employers that the less the firm pays its workers, the better off it is, the union stated. The competitive needs of this company will not be met by a lowering of wages or living standards, said the union. And the 1945 needs of workers certainly cannot be filled by 1945 wages.

The Ladies' Leader Garment Co. is a member of the Minnesota Apparel Industries and is therefore covered by an agreement which will expire in 1951.

Jackie Nimble of Dallas Shows Good Labor Policy Pays

Officers of the Southwest District last month enjoyed a pleasant tour through the dress plant of Ben and Jackie Nimble in Dallas, Tex. The firm is almost two years old and is operated by two young men who were formerly employed by Nardis Sportswear.

When the plant began to function, the firm called upon to function to negotiate an agreement. From the start it proclaimed its intention of operating a union shop.

The result has been excellent management-labor relations. Executives have shown progressive attitudes while union leadership in the shop has been on a most mature level. The forelady is a former active member of the ILGWU.

Of the more than 23,000 applicants in the skilled trades more than 80 per cent are war veterans.

Greenfield and Dresden, Tenn. Progress is being made in the unionization of several hundred cloakmakers employed by two new cloak shops. Enough workers have already applied for ILGWU membership to warrant plans for obtaining an ILGWU local charter. Early this month, Wave Tobin joined Emile Heftz, who is in charge of the drive, for a week of talks to new members in both centers on the union's program and aims.

McAlester, Okla. Something new in the way of techniques for blocking unionization has been added by the ingenious Seapurse Co. The firm has placed a nurse at a desk in the rest room where additional talks are delivered and membership in the company union is solicited.

Under the direction of Mary Loe, officers and members of Local 284 meanwhile are preparing to celebrate the anniversary of their local. It is also planned to begin testing, under the supervision of Rita Oetberke, a bi-monthly bulletin.

Little Rock, Ark. A staff conference for the purpose of coordinating the work of the city's city was held May 26. With the officers of Local 385 present, a plan was formulated whereby Ann Rathner will be stationed in Little Rock in charge of organizational work in Arkansas while Elizabeth Kimmel will supervise the activities.

Nebraska. Lee Marian last month visited members of Local 418 and Local 302, Fremont and Hastings respectively, for the purpose of discussing the expansion of organizational activities in the Mode O'Day shops in the state.

\$500 SENT TORNADO VICTIMS BY ILGWU

In response to a request from Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky authorized a contribution of \$500 from the union's general funds to aid members and families of Local 206, Alton, Ill., and Local 307, Cape Girardeau, Mo., who suffered losses in the tornado that swept through these communities on May 21.

One member of the Cape Girardeau local was fatally injured and her husband was killed instantly by the disastrous whirlwind. Many others had to be hospitalized and the homes of several members were destroyed or heavily damaged.

In Alton, according to reports by staff members Esther Knick and Ann Bresnahan, a number of members were so seriously injured they had to be hospitalized, several members' houses were damaged, and others were severely damaged.

Additional aid for the tornado victims is being collected by various locals in St. Louis at local group meetings. Among the first to respond were the workers at the Midwest Curtin Co. and Robt Lane Silk Dress Co., followed by the members of Dress Operators' Local 104. At a meeting of the local held May 26, voluntary contributions totaling \$713 were received in response to appeals by Leora Weinman and Ann Markowitz.

All funds will be given to the executive boards of the Alton and Cape Girardeau locals for distribution.

The ILGWU exhibit and banquet was held in the Carnival Room of the St. Louis ILGWU building beginning June 4.

Move Outdoors For Summer Fun

With the advent of the summer season, many of the Southwest's educational and recreational activities have shifted outdoors.

A special program of summer trips is being planned by Local 471, West Frankfort, Ill., under the direction of Neva Conde, educational director. The local also is organizing a choral group to be led by Hazel Lewis.

St. Louis Local 104 voted to have a boat excursion on the Mississippi River on June 18.

Plans were completed by a special committee of the Dallas Joint Board for an outdoor gathering for members and their families.

Kansas City members who attended the weekend institutes held on university campuses expressed their preference for the various classes in a questionnaire prepared by the joint board recently. A large majority voted for psychology, followed by philosophy, economics and world citizenship.

A social hour will be held at every meeting of Local 619, Quincy, Ill., the executive board decided at its last meeting. The board also named a committee to raise funds for expanded social and educational activities.

The Bowling Team of Local 446, St. Louis, Ill., recently won the championship and a prize of \$49.20 in the final.

Bovshow Named Manager Of Milwaukee J.L. Board

Harry Bovshow, Wisconsin ILGWU representative, who has been managing the affairs of the Milwaukee Joint Board on a temporary basis for the past year, was officially elected manager of the board at its last meeting.

Bovshow also will continue his duties as Wisconsin representative.

"Happy Birthday to You"



Delegates and guests celebrating the second anniversary of District Council 2, representing local of workers at Wall-Kalter Underwear Co. and other underground firms, rise at the occasion in singing labor and patriotic songs at festive affair held in St. Louis last month. Vice Pres. Perlstein, Southwest director, is at head of table at right.

N. E. of 'Unity' Meeting Sets Industry-Political Programs

NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT

David Gingold • Director

628 Delegates Hear Dubinsky, Sen. Myers, Four Congressmen, Economics Chief Urge Year-round Political Action.

Year-round political activity by garment workers and other trade unionists was endorsed openly and by implication at the annual conference of the Northeast Department by seven leaders in government, labor and economics who addressed the 628 participants at sessions held June 10 and 11 at Unity House, Forest Park, Ga.

The conference included three sessions. The first of these, held on Friday afternoon, featured an analysis of current economic trends and legislation by Leon H. Keyserling, vice chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors. He castigated the policy of those opposed to the President's Fair Deal program as one of willfully slowing down measures in line with that program and then proclaiming that the President's followers were doing nothing to meet the needs of the country.

At the same session, over which Mark Starr, ILGWU educational director, presided, Nelson H. Cruikshank, director of social insurance activities for the AFL, traced the development of social insurance legislation in the United States. After a detailed summary of the AFL's proposals for national health insurance he called on delegates to act in their home regions to rally support for the proposal.

The conference brought together at Unity House delegations from all parts of the Northeast Department jurisdiction, including a large contingent that made the long trip from the New England States. During the two-day weekend, numerous informal round-table discussions among the delegates revealed regional differences respecting present conditions of living, security in the shops, wages, the pace of organizational activities and other related matters. These were summarized and related to general economic trends in a talk by Vice Pres. David, director of the Northeast Department.

Organizing Tactic Shifts

Director Gingold told the delegates that buyers' resistance, induced by uncertainties springing in part from Congressional failure to implement fully the Fair Deal program, has shrunk the volume of work passing through Northeast shops. In many instances, he noted, these shops are set up to handle potentially large volumes of work. A number have sought to shift the burden of competition onto labor through wage cheating, he said.

The Northeast Department director told the delegates that the department's approach to organizational drives has been modified to fit into line with the new industrial framework. In the years immediately after the war the department caught up with the organizational work it was unable to do under wartime restrictions on

'ILG'ers Based Gifts on Need Not Prejudice'

With their quarters and dollars, freely donated, the garment workers of Pennsylvania and other states have reached across the ocean to give new hope to orphaned children in Italy, France and China. They have to a considerable extent been responsible for the defeat of the Communists in Italy and France, Pres. Dubinsky told the Northeast delegates attending the Northeast Department conference.

In Italy, the ILGWU chief declared, crucial balloting has resulted in liberal victories only because of small but important groups led by Giuseppe Saragat has given its decisive support to important measures. In France, the Force Ouvrière has exerted similar influence. Both these groups enjoy ILGWU endorsement.

In each of these instances, the president said, a free democratic government is the best guarantee of freedom and peace for that nation and, in turn, for the rest of the world.

Yet a certain columnist has made perverted use of the fact that garment workers are ready to give an occasional ice cream soda in order to share their blessings with war orphans or fighters against Communism and other totalitarianisms. That columnist has sought to stir racial resentments by feeding to ILGWU and then writing the same kind of accounts of the union's aid to Israel.

The ILGWU has given aid where aid was most urgently needed, Pres. Dubinsky added, and not to buy endorsement or to cater to prejudice. Without any slanting group of Chinese in its ranks it "sincerely has paid for the building of a school for orphans in Chungking."

"Those who attack David Dubinsky for his appeals for help to be half of the less fortunate, the orphaned, the fighting democrats of the world, thereby reveal their own disdain for democracy. Those who attack me for these things," he concluded, "attack our union, attack you. We are proud of the schools and orphanages you have built, and the record of aid is open and available to all."

unionists registered to vote so that they may be effective in the crucial Pennsylvania contest on Oct. 7. Pres. Francis J. Myers of that state charged that enemies of President Truman's program were staging a deliberate legislative slowdown.

The delegates were stirred to a rising demonstration at the final session by an impassioned plea for better pay for the workers. The ILGWU chief condemned a widely-syndicated columnist for seeking to stir racial rivalries in the ranks of the ILGWU. He said members long ago learned that such actions are aimed at dividing the union's organized strength for the benefit of those exploiting the dream of unbridled exploitation of workers without a union to protect them.

The delegation, as well as all other guests at Unity House, were treated to a performance of "Buttons 'n Bows" presented by the greater Philadelphia Council of the Northeast Department, which includes Wilkes-Barre locals. The revue was directed by Jim Corbett with skills and special lyrics by Bill Mattison and supervised by Enzo Grandi.



One of the skits from "Buttons 'n Bows" musical which entertained delegates to Northeast Department conference and other guests at ILGWU's vacation resort last weekend. Cast included union members from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Greater Pittsburgh area giving their third performance of the fast-paced ILG revue.

Pa. Congressmen Tell Tricks of 'Politicking'

Addressing themselves directly to 474 delegates to the Northeast conference who came from cities and towns in Pennsylvania, two active, liberal Congressmen and a Senator from that state outlined the specific shop and community steps that must be taken in order to insure the implementation of liberal measures.

The evening session was under the chairmanship of Gus Tyler, ILGWU political director. Congressman Andrew Jacobs of Indiana and Congressman O'Neill also participated.

Congressman Flood, the Congressman noted that liberals were short 28 to 30 votes for repeal of the Taft-Hartley law. He warned the delegates that a fatal error would be to await out a successful election campaign and then fail to follow through.

Congressman Rhodes: Registration and voting campaign must be supported with vigor by central la-

bor and state federation bodies, the Congressman warned. Failure to do this will lead to repetitions of the parliamentary record of 17 Keynote State Congressmen who, coming from one of the nation's most highly industrialized states, still vote consistently against labor's interests.

Sen. Myers: The Senator charged propagandists were seeking to confuse the people on the Democratic Party's record in Congress. He pledged that campaign promises for a Fair Deal program, would be filled and declared that the party demonstrated its liberal strength in its ability to overcome appropriation cuts.

Keyserling Calls for Stabilized Prices And Wage Raises to End Downturn

In the opening address of the conference, Leon H. Keyserling, vice chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, declared that in a healthy economy wages rise faster than prices. This produces a rising standard of living which in turn spurs expanded production and employment.

Keyserling denounced those who endorse curtailments of production, buying and investment by private industry and then, in their "spoil-the-loot" philosophy, protest that government must step in to take up the resulting slack through a schedule of public works and improvements.

Delegates Adopt 4 Key Resolutions

The annual conference of the Northeast Department adopted four resolutions:

POLITICAL. Local executive boards are to designate political sub-committees; wherever possible political shop stewards will be chosen to stimulate workers to write to Congressmen, to spur legislation and to present them in person.

HEALTH. Further expansion and improvement of service in health centers endorsed. It was urged that local officers be vigilant in checking employer contributions to welfare funds.

ORGANIZATION. Continued efforts to be pledged to the parallel drive of the Northeast Department and the New York Dress Joint Board.

EDUCATION. It was resolved that educational program continue to be coordinated with political activities.

Phila. Dress Joint Board

PHILADELPHIA

Samuel Otto Manager

Distribution of welfare benefits to approximately 12,000 members of the Dress Joint Board, in accordance with provisions of the union agreement, will be made during the week of June 20, it was announced by Vice Pres. Samuel Otto and Ben Feldman, chairman of the Welfare Benefit Fund Committee.

Payments ranging from \$15 to \$40 will be received by eligible members meeting the following qualifications:

1. Members must have completed payment of initiation fees before Jan. 1, 1949, and must be working in the industry.

2. Members must be in good standing, with dues and assessments paid through June, 1949.

3. In computing welfare payments, the calendar year 1949 will be used. Benefits paid will be 2 per cent of a member's earnings during that year, excepting that:

a. No payment shall exceed \$45.

b. Members now working in the industry who joined the union not later than Dec. 31, 1947, and have had 35 weeks of earnings will receive either 2 per cent of their wages or \$25, whichever is higher.

c. All new members will receive initiation payments before Jan. 1, 1949, will receive either 2 per cent of earnings or \$5, whichever is higher.

Local memberships now are voting on proposals which have been approved by the joint board and by local executive boards to change Welfare Fund benefit payments from the present annual basis to semi-annually, in January and July of each year.

The Welfare Benefit Fund Committee of the Health Insurance Fund, in addition to Feldman, consists of Nathan Alexander, Isaac Aptaker, Abe Bloomfield, Abe Bekky and Al Gerber.

Good Neighbor Award

The joint board has been awarded a Certificate of Leadership by the Percy-Douglas Hospital in recognition of the union's "good neighbor attitude" in contributing to the hospital's current campaign for funds.

500,000 SERVICES
ESTIMATED FOR '49
BY HEALTH CENTER

In reporting for the standing committee of the GEB, Executive Secretary Frederick F. Umhey reported that the New York Union Health Center, which was greatly enlarged and re-equipped recently, is geared to meet an anticipated 500,000 services in 1949, with an operating budget of \$1,131,118 and an estimated income of \$910,600. Dr. Myer Rosenblum has been designated chief medical adviser of the center.

The Death Benefit Fund of the ILGWU, which now pays a \$100 benefit to heirs of members in good standing, paid out last year \$108,880, while the total paid out in death benefits since 1919 reached the sum of \$2,423,890. The number of deaths among ILGWU members in 1948 was 1,596, and the total since 1928 numbers 10,344. The death rate among members rose from 2.5 to 4.31 per thousand.

A report from the Health and Welfare Department revealed the fact that more than 345,000 of the 429,000 members of the ILGWU are already covered by the various wage, health and pension programs of the union.

Umhey also reported on the Apparel, Finance and Education Committees of the General Executive Board.

Federal Disability
Insurance Given
Full GEB Support

A resolution favoring Federal legislation to provide a uniform system of social insurance protecting workers against loss of income during periods of disability was adopted by the General Executive Board of the ILGWU last week at its Unity House meeting. The resolution reads:

WHEREAS, five states have passed legislation providing temporary disability insurance; and

WHEREAS, these laws differ in coverage, the amount of benefits, ways of financing and the methods of insuring temporary disability; and

WHEREAS, such diversity of disability insurance legislation creates confusion, permits private insurance companies to dominate the field for profit, and works generally to the disadvantage of the insured workers; be it resolved,

RESOLVED, that the General Executive Board of the ILGWU reaffirms its support of the principle of government-operated social insurance systems; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in order to effect uniform protection of workers against disability, we favor Federal legislation which would set up a national social insurance system protecting workers against the economic hazards of disability in all its forms.

No tickets are necessary for the meeting, which begins at 7:30 P.M. in Studio A.

READY FOR EVENING
OF DRAMA JUNE 23

An evening of drama, including three short plays of a varied nature, is on the calendar for June 23 when the Central Dramatics Group under the direction of Elizabeth R. Rose takes the stage in the ILGWU's air-cooled general office at 1710 Broadway.

Doing a repeat performance of its eminently successful "Discrimination for Everybody," the group will offer in addition "The Jewish Told," a poetic drama, and "Shakespeare—Right and Wrong," an original improvisation.

No tickets are necessary for the meeting, which begins at 7:30 P.M. in Studio A.

"Garment Production
Won't Drop in 1949"

The nation's four billion dollar women's apparel industry appears to be in good shape for the balance of 1949 despite shaky employment in some of its branches, the General Executive Board of the ILGWU meeting at Unity House, Forest Park, Pa., was told in an economic report by the union's Research Department.

The downward movement of garment prices and some future readjustments which may occur when additional revisions are made in the price of fabrics suggest that the number of garments produced in 1949 will be at least as great as that turned out in 1948, the report, prepared by Dr. Lazare Teper, head of the union's research department, said.

The return to less stable patterns of employment, the adjustment of production to a buyer's market, the increased emphasis on lower-priced items—all these developments which now characterize the general business scene had already come to the garment trade, the report asserted.

The change in the character of buying by retailers and lowered inventories may induce some apparel manufacturers to step up their labor force in order to speed up shipment of goods, it was explained. However, the ILGWU report contends that it is important to erect as many safeguards as possible against the probability of a more serious slump.

"It is, after all, impossible to foresee whether, in spite of the soundness of the general economy, business men will talk their selves into depression. In planning a program it may not be remiss to note that the share of the national income paid out to wage and salaried employees declined from the high levels of 1944 and 1945—from 67 cents out of every dollar of the national income in 45 cents, the report declared.

"The prospects for the women's wear industries must be judged, as usual, in relation to the general economic situation. The state opened by consumers on women's clothes remained in recent years fairly constant in relation to the total incomes of the American public. With the possibility that during the current year there may be some shrinkage in the disposable personal income, one may well expect some slight reductions in the dollar volume of business done by the ladies' garment industry," the report concluded.

Station KFMV Is on the Spot



ILGWU-owned radio station in Los Angeles features series of on-the-job interviews with workers, shop committees and management in various industries. Five KFMV's 531 Keweenaw Club with a worker and a member of the firm at Hollywood Pioneer Unitwear shop in series of on-the-job interviews.

Union Health Center

Pauline Newman

Warning that the 1949 polio season is "just around the corner," the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has issued a list of precautionary measures for parents and those in charge of children during the epidemic danger period.

This period usually runs from May through October, reaching its peak in Greater New York City during the summer months.

Five easy-to-follow rules for children which have been issued by the National Foundation's medical authorities are:

1. Avoid crowds and places where close contact with persons is likely.

2. Avoid over fatigue caused by too active play or exercise, or irregular hours.

3. Avoid swimming "in polluted water. Use only beaches or public pools declared safe by local health authorities.

4. Avoid sudden chilling. Remove wet shoes and clothing at once and keep extra blankets and heavier clothing handy for sudden weather changes.

5. Observe the golden rule of cleanliness. Keep food covered tightly and safe from flies or other insects. Garbage should be covered and, if other disposal facilities are lacking, it should be buried or burned.

It is advised that a doctor be called at once if there are symptoms of headache, nausea, upset stomach, muscle aches or stiffness, or unexplained fever. Prompting out that early diagnosis and prompt

treatment are important and may prevent crippling, the Foundation suggests that the doctor's advice if he orders hospital care.

One other point emphasized was that fear and anxiety should be held to a minimum. A calm, confident attitude is conducive to health and recovery. Parents, it was noted, should remember that of those stricken, 50 per cent recover completely, while another 25 per cent are left with only slight after-effects.

Frederick F. Umhey, executive secretary of the ILGWU, is chairman of the New York AFL Committee which gives a major role in the annual March of Dimes drives in New York City. Umhey emphasized that the National Foundation is not giving immediate assistance to those struck down by this dread disease and will pay that part of the cost of care and treatment which the patient cannot meet, including transportation and after-care costs such as wheel chairs and braces and other orthopedic equipment.

GEB REPORTS SHOW
SIMILAR PATTERNS
IN MAJOR MARKETS

(Continued from Page 2: union leaders wherever possible, he added.

Competition Rules
West Coast Now

Vice Pres. Louis Levy's report stressed the point that for the first time since the war, the women's wear industry, both union and non-union, has been forced into a competitive atmosphere. Since the industry has grown many times over during the boom years, many of the firms not yet adapted to the needs and pressures of competitive practices found themselves in a state of near panic when the hard facts descended upon them.

Still, Levy stated, there is a new sense of optimism for the fall season, which is expected to begin about June 15, after samples are completed. At present, however, GEB is little full-time employment in any of the garment trades.

The pricing situation has caused many employers to initiate a drive to force down piece rates. A stiff attitude on price setting, however, has resulted in maintaining a high degree of stability on the wage line. Decisions by the impartial chairman have helped to keep prices at contractual levels. A similar policy of strict observance of prescribed conditions and pay increases was adopted toward the Sportswear Contractors Assn. An impartial chairman's ruling served to help in re-establishing order and adherence to obligations to workers.

Levy cited numerous cases of attempted contract breaches in California, Arizona and New York localities, where union vigilance has defeated employer's subterfuge and run-away tactics.

During this period, contracts have been renewed with the employers' groups in the coat and suit industry of Los Angeles, Seattle, Wash., and Portland, Ore. In every case, some definite improvements in wage or other work terms were secured.

Levy also mentioned the fact that ILGWU prestige has never been higher on the West Coast than it is today. The union's relations with the labor movement in Los Angeles are most cordial.

KNOW
YOUR
CITY

Saturday Visits to Points of Interest

June 24-26, Sunday Fellowship Reunion at Forest Park, Pa.

July 9 at 11 A.M. Van Cortlandt Park, (Use 4th Ave. Broadway Line to 242 St. Meet outside station.) Visit historic Van Cortlandt House, Bring lunch.

July 16 at 11 A.M. Palisades Interstate Park, (Use 8th Ave. A train to 175 St. Meet outside station.) Bring lunch.

July 23 at 11 A.M. Clove Lake Park in Staten Island, (Use 7th Ave. Subway to South Ferry. Meet outside station.) Bring lunch. Row-boating on lake.

CUTTERS COLUMN

Isidor Nagler • Manager

The fall season in the cloak trade has been launched, following the showing of new lines and receipt of orders from retailers and their representatives, the shops have started cutting garments. The same process takes place in the dress and miscellaneous trades. As always at the start of a season there is a spirit of hopefulness and expectancy.

In our unpredictable industries it is idle to indulge in prophecies as to the outcome of a season. Style is not the only factor which dictates the amount of labor in a garment or whether the retailer will be cautious or place his orders early. Of paramount importance is whether the consumer will have the wherewithal to buy the coats and suits, the dresses, blouses, underwear, etc. that are produced by our workers in the shops. This depends on general conditions of employment and earnings and the relation of such earnings to the cost of living. Under present circumstances, it would be hazardous to do more than voice a earnest hope for a good season, but it is comforting to know that most forecasters predict favorable economic conditions during the balance of the year.

Honor Officers' Meeting

A union such as Local 10 is more than an economic organization; it is a way of life. Many active spirits live and thrive in its atmosphere of activity. And when they are remembered by their colleagues and fellow workers for their good

work, their devotion to the welfare of the organization, its principles and ideals.

And so recently many of our members and officers took part in investing ceremonies for two former officers: Julius Levine, who had served Local 10 as a dress business agent, and Harry Friedland, who had been a valued member of the executive board. We honored the memory of these two men because they had made a place for themselves in our hearts and in the unfolding history of our organization.

Geneva Conference

As one who at different times represented our International Union as well as the AFL at conferences abroad in which it fell to my lot to voice disapproval of participation in any body which included Soviet "trade unions," I cannot help but rejoice at the news that a new, genuinely democratic world trade union federation will be organized in Geneva this month.

In 1940, as a representative of the AFL to the British Trades Union Congress, I expressed the view that the Soviet trade unions were not free labor organizations and we understand them in dem-



cratic countries, but regimented instruments of the state, and consequently we could not work together inside one international labor body.

However, this was during the war when many people labored under serious illusions about our wartime "ally." The British joined with other labor movements in some countries, as well as with the state controlled organizations in the Soviet Union and its satellite states, in forming the World Federation of Trade Unions.

In due course, Communist elements came to dominate the WFTU and used it to further the expansionist policies and propaganda of the Soviet Union.

In 1947 as a representative of the ILOU to the annual conference of the British Trades Union, I had another occasion to reiterate our union's policy and that of the AFL against "united fronts" with totalitarian "Cominterns" in international as well as in domestic affairs. Bitter years of experience had taught

us that unity meant to Communists only a slogan behind which they could maneuver to destroy every democratic and freedom loving element. And I cited classic instances and verse to show how Communist trickery and chicanery had turned the WFTU into an apologist for state labor and for destruction of free trade unionism and human rights in many countries.

Then the climax came when the WFTU took a hostile position on the Marshall Plan for world economic reconstruction, which aroused widespread resentment among the people, and particularly the trade unions, in the democratic countries, and even in some satellite states.

During the past year, the defections of the British and other non-Communist-controlled labor movements, including the CGO, from the WFTU, have been most heartening. They have cleared the way for the establishment of an international labor organization, which will henceforth be free trade unionism and democracy will be a genuine successor to the former International Federation of Trade Unions.

Particularly gratifying is the fact that the AFL has changed its former policy of insisting on being the sole representative of labor in any international labor organization, a policy which it supported until recently, on the ground that it would perpetuate the split in the American labor movement.

However, changing conditions require a change of policy. Henceforth will be represented in the new organization. May this be an augury of increasing cooperation with the beginning of the road toward an organically unified labor movement in America!

CLOAK OUT-OF-TOWN

George Rubin — Manager

Dues Up July 1

At its meeting last month, the Joint Committee on dues collection for the proposal for an adjustment in the amount and method of dues payments for all members of the Cloak Out-Of-Town Department. The individual locals had previously voted their approval of the proposal.

Accordingly, beginning with July 1, 1949, dues will be paid in the form of one monthly payment of \$5.00. This sum will eliminate the two \$1 assessments which have heretofore been paid separately.

It was also decided that arrears remaining unpaid by July 1 will thereafter be, "as at the new rate." All members are therefore urged to arrange to clear up their accounts in full before that date.

Chest X-Rays

Chest X-ray examinations are being arranged for all members of the Cloak Out-Of-Town locals during the coming summer. The first examinations will begin as soon as the new season gets underway.

The examinations will be taken right in the shops wherever possible. In other cases, they will be conducted near the shop or in the local headquarters.

These examinations are being set up through cooperation of the union with the various public health agencies and tuberculosis specialists of the Community Chests in Cloak Out-Of-Town territory. The examinations will be free of charge to the workers.

N. J. Employment Benefits

Over \$2,000 in unemployment benefits was gained for a group of members of Local 125 last month as the result of appeal filed by the union with the New Jersey Division of Employment Security.

The initial decision, held that these workers were disqualified from unemployment benefits on the ground that they had created a stoppage. The union proved, however, that the employer was responsible for the situation. The workers had demanded the setting of new prices for the fur hats they were doing; in order to avoid this, the employer, after a number of jobs were completed, sent the balance back to the jobbers. In other words, it was made clear that the workers continued at their machines as long as there was work to do.

On the basis of these facts, the union was able to get the New Jersey suit article in the unemployment of the workers for full benefits.

Union Upheld in N. Y.

A similar ruling was won by Local 165 when a member was declared ineligible for unemployment benefits because of refusal to accept work at less than customary union wage standards. The member had been sent to an unemployment office which offered about \$1 an hour.

The union representative appeared the case and was upheld in the claim that the rate was too low to permit a union member to work below the ILOU's established rates and conditions.

the members of the local was recently informed. It is proposed to help build facilities for women and children in Israel. Officers are: Rose Nussim, chairman; Lucille Blau, secretary; Ida Plaut, treasurer; and Josephine Wolf, financial secretary.

N. Y. CLOAK MAKERS

Both Parties Agree to Hold Demands a Year

Settlement of a number of issues not resolved by the collective agreement in the coat and suit industry has been deferred for one year, according to Acting General Manager Benjamin Kaplan. The issues were to have been decided by mutual accord or by a decision of the impartial chairman by June 1, 1949. Only question not held over was the conversion of piece rate increases.

Reporting to a meeting of the Cloak Joint Board on June 1, Kaplan stated that deferment of both employer and union demands was made by consent of both parties. At the request of the employers the conversion of three \$5 pay increases into piece rates was submitted on May 31 to impartial chairman Sol A. Rosenblatt, who was expected to rule by June 15, Kaplan said.

Among the union demands which will await final action till June 1, 1950, are the following:

- 1) Headquarters of the minimum wage scale for all workers.
- 2) Elimination of under-pressors as a craft.
- 3) Establishment of a minimum scale for floor help and workers employed on special machines.
- 4) Workers employed in assorting and marking of parts to be separately classified and minimum wage to be established for them for a 35-hour week.
- 5) Elimination of overtime provision in present contract for floor help, sorters and markers.
- 6) The union insists that there are firms in the industry whose piece rate settlements disclose inequities which cannot be corrected because of the direction by Arbitrator R. Meyer, subsequently repudiated by impartial chairman Puleiti and Rosenblatt to the effect

CLOAK JOINT BOARD

that "piece rate settlements shall be made as heretofore." The association agrees that the union may

file complaints in such cases against such firms and the association will interpose, as a defense, the respective arbitration decisions which direct that piece rates on garments shall be settled as heretofore. The union agrees that it will limit such complaints to cases where settlement of piece rates has resulted in unfair competition of employer against employer or worker against worker. The complaints filed by the union shall be either adjusted between the parties prior to June 1, 1949, or determined by the impartial chairman at that date at which time agreements reached and decided by the impartial chairman shall become effective. Except as modified above, settlement as heretofore shall prevail during the term of the contract.

Two piece rates on all garments to be settled with the jobber or manufacturer on his premises for all of the piece workers in his inside shop and/or of all of his contractors' shops at the same time.

It's Vacation Time Again



Harry Kugelman of the Cloak Joint Board presents vacation check to Cristina Longo, Local 48 finisher and one of the 45,000 cloak-makers who received annual holiday benefit.

REEFER DEPARTMENT ENFORCES RULES ON DELINQUENT FIRMS

A total of \$63,796 was collected by the Reefer Department from Nov. 23, 1948 to Apr. 8, 1949. It was reported by Manager Louis Colub. Payments on delinquencies to the welfare funds represented a substantial part of the total, with \$16,308 going to the Retirement Fund, \$19,129 to the Vacation and Health Fund. The joint board relief tax collected from 2,164 members amounted to \$15,990.

Complaints were filed against firms that failed to furnish a sum due for labels to the National Coat and Suit Industry Recovery Board. In some cases, labels were referred to the impartial chairman for a hearing. This item totaled \$7,705.

Lapsed damages of \$2,100 were paid by employers for non-union or non-designated work not authorized by the collective agreement. Back pay and wages amounting to \$231 were paid out to the workers. Three discharged workers were reinstated.

Three firms joined the Infants and Children's Association and two went out of business.

Finishers' Groups Fete Joshua Vogel On Weekend Outing

Three Local 9 groups will hold a joint outing at Camp Eden the weekend of June 24, highlighted by a banquet for Joshua Vogel on his 50th birthday.

The Benjamin Schlesinger Branch of the Jewish Socialist Federation, the Mutual Aid and Cultural Society and Workmen's Circle Branch are the sponsors of the event. Vogel, who has been a member of the union for close to three decades and is presently serving as a business agent, is an officer of all the organizations.

A Pioneer Women's Club, composed of members and wives of

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"We Shall Not Be Moved"

When the General Executive Board of our International Union began its sessions last week at Unity House, many of its members were affected by a mood of uneasy vagueness concerning "the state of the industry" in which our union functions.

So much, indeed, of a confusing nature has happened in the general economy of the country since the ILGWU top board met last December, so much of what at times seemed to appear as an organized effort to create a deflating spirit in labor especially, that even some of our most astute leaders seemed to have lost sight of the general pattern of our industry's operations.

This meeting of the board has done much to disperse this fog. An exchange of concise, clear-headed surveys of the districts and markets which make up the industry, which has brought to light the half-year chronicle of the up-and-downs in the huge four-billion-dollar enterprise of manufacture of women's apparel, has dispelled most of the shadowy uncertainty which hung over some of our markets since the first jitters of unemployment had affected the nation in mid-winter.

The vanished uneasiness has rapidly been replaced with a refreshing realization that our own employment situation during this past work season has turned out to be much better than anticipated, though admittedly not up to the oversold standard of the first postwar years. What's no less encouraging is that the prospects in nearly every production center of the industry for an active, bustling fall season were revealed to be legitimately bright.

Still more important, as Pres. Dubinsky affirmed in his own over-all report, is the fact that the ILGWU has stood its ground in every nook and sector of the garment-making empire with regard to prices, work-hours and other major employment terms. In many places the union, indeed, has had to contend against rising employer toughness aided and abetted by the "bargaining equality" climate fostered by the Taft-Hartley astringent. Last but not least is this very tangible evidence of union health—the report that our membership not only has not declined but has actually kept rising steadily under the consistent hammering of our organizing cadres in many sectors of the country!

It would nevertheless be far from accurate to evaluate the significance of the last GEB meeting on the basis merely of astute inventory-taking or shot-in-the-arm research charts. It was, indeed, mighty pleasant to have learned that the ILGWU, after the past six-month interval, was as sound financially as it was spiritually and that its prestige has been on the rise all the time on local as well as national levels.

But our GEB as an institution is by no means a mere stock-taking agency; it is rather the dynamic arm of the union between conventions, vested with powers of creative stewardship where authority implies also grave, sensitive responsibility.

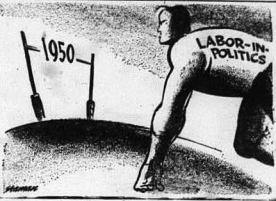
Perhaps the most striking phenomenon of the ILGWU "way of living," as expressed at GEB meetings and between meetings, is the amazingly large scale of its undertakings, the sweep of its imagination. The readers who will peruse the news pages of this issue, devoted largely to the Unity House meeting, will find many such examples of the "bigness" of our planning and performance.

He will find it—for the span of the half year alone—in such achievements as the upbuilding of a great health center in New York which is calculated to give 500,000 services to union members during the current year; in the inauguration of two magnificently equipped union-owned FM radio stations; in the virtual completion of a country-wide health and welfare program for nearly our entire membership; in the far-sighted decision to establish a full-fledged Training for Officers School to raise a new generation of leadership for the union; in sharing the initiative for the formation of a new worldwide free trade union body rid of Communist rule; in the subscribing of a million dollars worth of bonds for the promotion of the Israel labor federation (Histadrut) housing project—and in numerous other acts and projects alive with national and international good will and labor solidarity.

"I Do Hereby Swear ..."



"Goal to Go!"



Pins & Needles

M. D. Danish

THE safest place for Mr. Eisler, it would seem to us, is not Leipzig in the Soviet Zone of Germany where, it is alleged, he was offered a "university professorship," but in some nice, remote English island colony where unmoored he could enjoy British asylum prerogatives to the end of time. . . .

Some friend should tip off Eisler that a Communist professorship anywhere under the Soviet aegis is a hazardous job. Soviet concentration camps, indeed, are full of ex-professors, most of them in a state of half-decay.

Like these "nests," Mr. Eisler could some day be tagged—through mistype or mishap—a "cosmopolite," and that, of course, would spell curtains for our jolly ball-jumper. And rest assured Eisler would find it much harder to "beat it" from Uncle Joe than from Uncle Sam. . . .

SOME editorial spirits, in the press pastures of New York in particular, appear to have been ruffled by the announcement that Taft-Hartley repeal has again been placed on the top of legislative "musts" by the White House.

Why this sudden "change in signals," the dour commentators lament—why this rank "appeasement" of the trade unions? It is because George Meany has fervently declared that the AFL would not tolerate further dilly-dallying with T-H repeal, or it is due to the acrid letter Philip Murray wrote to Sen. Lucas and House Majority Leader McCormack that the Administration has decided to shift emphasis back to labor legislation?

Well, it could very well be all that, and something else. Definitely, President Truman appears to be determined to get T-H out of the way before this session of Congress adjourns. Obviously, he wants to come up to the 1950 Congressional race with the T-H issue off the agenda, one way or the other—either as a Democratic platform commitment honorably discharged or as a pro-labor measure sabotaged by his sworn antagonists, the GOP and its Southern allies.

FOOD from America for German strikers. . . . Sounds odd, incredibly odd, but there it is. The AFL's Labor League for Human Rights, the same group which brought out some years ago as the Free Trade Union Committee, sent \$5,000 worth of food in CARE parcels last week for distribution among the Berlin railway strikers who are battling Soviet-controlled police and Com-

munist scab cadres for the right to be paid in "real" wages, West Zone marks.

By the time these lines appear in print, this diet, in which scores of heads were broken and several strikers killed, may be ended. In miniature, nevertheless, it offers a classic illustration of the Bolshevik attitude toward labor unions and economic strikes.

As in "Mother Russia," strikes are forbidden wherever the Red Army holds sway, and unions are treated only as minions and tools of the state.

THE anti-Liberal press—and that of course includes the Hearst papers, the McCormick axis and some of the Scripps-Howard chain—is already beating a retreat.

It would seem that the Great Hickenlooper, who on the first day of the Liberal inquisition sounded off more like a county attorney trying a chicken thief than a Senator of the United States questioning a great public servant on the gravest possible charge, has already fallen flat on his face.

Thus we observe that the early banner headlines of the "get Liberal press," which stridently proclaimed in 1920-point type the love's son's verdict-before-fall to the effect that the Atomic Energy Commission is suffering from "incredible maladministration," have already been replaced by more modest captions and a soberer choice of language.

THERE was a lot of sound political sense in what Gen. Clay had to say at Columbia University's commencement ceremonies the other day, thoughts which a great many other "small-d" democrats here and abroad might profitably commit to memory.

The former high commissioner for the American Zone in Germany observed that, regardless of any understanding the Western Allies might reach with the Soviet Union in the "current talks in Paris," the "ideological war between the democratic lands and the countries under Communist dictatorship is bound to continue for many years."

Gen. Clay, now retiring to private life, would welcome any step that would stop or slow down the cold war, he declared. But, he added, it would be insanity to believe that there can be a basic agreement between those who believe in a democratic society and those who strive for world Communist domination.